

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION



BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

Libby Unit

STATE OF MONTANA

Phone: (406) 293-2711  
Fax: (406) 293-9307

177 State Lands Office Road  
LIBBY, MT 59923

January 20, 2012

Dear Interested Parties:

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Libby Unit is proposing a timber harvest on approximately 453 acres on one parcel of State Trust Land located in T28N R29W Sec. 16. A brief description of the proposed action is listed below:

- 1) Sell approximately 6-8 million board feet of timber to generate revenue for the Common School (CS) trust and to meet annual timber harvest levels mandated by state law.
- 2) Use silvicultural treatments to promote the development of historic stand conditions emphasizing retention and/or regeneration of ponderosa pine and western larch.
- 3) Manage these lands in a way that would reduce fuels and the potential for a wildfire to become a stand replacing fire, putting at risk the timber asset that currently exists, and capture the value of that asset before tree mortality erodes additional value.

Preliminary field observations indicate that 2-3 miles of new road construction would be required to access timber. Ground based logging systems would be utilized on approximately 235 acres, cable based logging systems would be utilized on the remainder of acres. Proposed silvicultural treatments would include a regeneration harvest that reserves seed trees and snags. Follow-up treatments could include machine piling and scarification, broadcast burning and hand planting tree seedlings. Road construction and harvest activities could begin in the summer/fall of 2012.

This notice is to inform you of the proposed action and to solicit your comments regarding this timber harvest plan. Please submit your written comments by February 24, 2012 to Jeremy Rank, DNRC Libby Unit, 177 State Lands Office Road, Libby, MT 59923, or email to [jrank@mt.gov](mailto:jrank@mt.gov).

Thank you for your interest in state forest land management.

Sincerely,

S:/Jeremy Rank

Jeremy Rank,  
Management Forester,  
Libby Unit